



YUKON RIVER NEWS RELEASE



STATE OF ALASKA
Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
McKie Campbell, Commissioner
Denby Lloyd, Director

Steve Hayes, Summer Season Area Manager

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
Federal Subsistence Board
Tom Melius, Regional Director
Peter Probasco
Acting Asst. Regional Dir. Subsistence
Russ Holder, Yukon Area Inseason Manager

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 5, 2006

The river ice breakup this year occurred later than average and about 10 days later than in 2005. The 1999 season had similar late breakup timing. Commercial fishing did not start until around June 20, although this years run may not be as late as 1999, it will be later than average. At this time subsistence salmon fishing in the lower river is light due to high and fast moving water conditions. Subsistence salmon fishers are encouraged to call in their subsistence catch information to the department in Emmonak.

The Lower Yukon set and drift test nets began fishing on June 4. No salmon have been caught as of June 4. The Pilot Station sonar project began test fishing on June 3. No salmon have been caught as of June 4. The sonar should be operational and counting fish by June 6 and numbers should be available by June 7.

District Y-1 subsistence salmon fishing schedule is from 8:00 p.m. Mondays until 8:00 a.m. Wednesdays and from 8:00 p.m. Thursdays until 8:00 a.m. Saturdays. Subsistence fishers in District Y-1 can begin subsistence salmon fishing again on Monday, June 5 at 8:00 p.m. for 36 hours.

District Y-2 subsistence salmon fishing schedule is from 8:00 p.m. Sundays until 8:00 a.m. Tuesdays and from 8:00 p.m. Wednesdays until 8:00 a.m. Fridays. Subsistence salmon fishers in District Y-2 will need to pull their salmon nets out by 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 6. Fishers can start fishing again on Wednesday, June 7 at 8 p.m. for 36 hours.

District Y-3 subsistence salmon fishing in District Y-3 is from 8:00 a.m. Fridays until 8:00 p.m. Saturdays and from 8:00 a.m. Tuesdays until 8:00 p.m. Wednesdays. Subsistence fishers in District Y-3 can begin subsistence salmon fishing again on Tuesday, June 6 at 8:00 a.m. for 36 hours.

Subsistence salmon fishing for the Innoko River is open 7 days per week, 24 hours a day. However, if subsistence salmon fishers from Shageluk go to the Yukon River mainstem to fish for salmon, they must abide by the subsistence salmon fishing schedule for District 3.

Subsistence salmon fishing for the Coastal District is currently open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.

During the subsistence salmon fishing closures, all gillnets with a mesh size greater than four inches must be removed from the water and fish wheels may not be operated.

Subsistence salmon fishermen are reminded that the dorsal fin of king salmon taken for subsistence

purposes in Districts Y-1, 2, and 3 must be immediately removed upon landing.

For recorded fishery announcements and updates call 949-1731, 24 hours a day. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 907-455-1849. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A.

This has been a report by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

2006 Lower Yukon River Regulatory Subsistence Salmon Fishing Schedule

The department will update the following subsistence salmon fishing schedule before Monday, June 12.

District Y-1 subsistence salmon fishing schedule for the week of June 5 though June 11 is as follows:

| Monday June 5 | Tuesday June 6 | Wednesday June 7 | Thursday June 8 | Friday June 9 | Saturday June 10 | Sunday June 11 |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| Subsistence Salmon Fishing Opens at 8 p.m. | Subsistence Salmon Fishing Open | 8:00 a.m. Subsistence Salmon Fishing Closes | Subsistence Salmon Fishing Opens at 8 p.m. | Subsistence Salmon Fishing Open | 8:00 a.m. Subsistence Salmon Fishing Closes | Subsistence Salmon Fishing Closed |

District Y-2 subsistence salmon fishing schedule for the week of June 5 though June 11 is as follows:

| Monday June 5 | Tuesday June 6 | Wednesday June 7 | Thursday June 8 | Friday June 9 | Saturday June 10 | Sunday June 11 |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| Subsistence Salmon Fishing Open | 8:00 a.m. Subsistence Salmon Fishing Closes | Subsistence Salmon Fishing Opens at 8 p.m. | Subsistence Salmon Fishing Open | 8:00 a.m. Subsistence Salmon Fishing Closes | Subsistence Salmon Fishing Closed | Subsistence Salmon Fishing Opens at 8 p.m. |

District Y-3 subsistence fishing salmon schedule for the week of June 5 through June 11 is as follows:

| Monday June 5 | Tuesday June 6 | Wednesday June 7 | Thursday June 8 | Friday June 9 | Saturday June 10 | Sunday June 11 |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| Subsistence Salmon Fishing Closed | 8:00 a.m. Subsistence Salmon Fishing Open | Subsistence Salmon Fishing closes at 8 p.m. | Subsistence Salmon Fishing Closed | 8:00 a.m. Subsistence Salmon Fishing Open | Subsistence Salmon Fishing closes at 8 p.m. | Subsistence Salmon Fishing Closed |